

Local resident, 81,
dies in traffic acci-
dent near Spring-
field. Page 2A

PEOPLE

Worthen School stu-
dents get a chance
to experience Mid-
dle Ages, thanks to
group. Page 8A

Granite City Press Record

VOLUME 93, NUMBER 22

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1995

(USPS226-160) FIFTY CENTS

State shifts pumps to Chouteau area

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Rumors that the state is going to pull a 10-inch pump out of Chouteau Township are not true, according to Illinois Emergency Management Agency officials.

In fact, because flood water in other areas is falling, more pumps are being shifted to the area, said Nancy Kimme, regional IEMA director.

Kimme said the 10-inch pump, which has been in place for about a week, will remain for at least another week.

"Originally when we put the pump in it was with the agreement that it would be there for one week," she said. "We assessed the situation (Tuesday) and opted to keep the pump there for another week."

The pump was leased by IEMA for \$15,000 per week. IEMA has also provided two other large pumps for the area through the Illinois Department of Conservation.

She also said that three small-

Declaration issued...3A

er pumps being used in the Arlington area were no longer needed there and were being shifted to Chouteau Township. Kimme also said pumps in East St. Louis might also be moved.

While other parts of the area are drying out, much of Chouteau Township near Interstate 270 remains flooded.

Floodwater had started going down before the Memorial Day holiday, but rain pushed waters right back up, said Pat Polley, Chouteau Township Supervisor.

"It's back to where they were Saturday," she said.

Bob Ficer, who lives in Mitchell Lake subdivision, said water had fallen about four inches by Saturday, came up to the previous level after the rain, and had dropped about four inches again by Tuesday. He added that water appeared to be going down about 1 1/2 inches every 24 hours.

Ficer had been critical of flood control efforts by local officials, saying they were ignoring residents and making very little effort to help.

"All we got from anybody is 'it's not going to work,'" he said.

Tuesday, Ficer said things were starting to get a little better.

"It seems like they're trying to get their act together, but I don't know why there hasn't been more state help around here."

Polley said much of the problem was that the drainage district's pumps are no longer adequate.

The pumps were put into place when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed the levee in 1962, she said. Since then, development and highway construction has created massive runoff problems.

"It just overwhelmed the system," she said. "And when you have 12 inches of rain it doesn't help."

(See PUMPS, Page 7A)

Former dispatcher not guilty

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Tears of joy streamed down Andrea Kuehn's face Tuesday afternoon as she exited a Madison County courtroom in Edwardsville, leaving behind a cloud that had loomed over her head for years.

"They believed me. I told the truth and have been telling the truth for four years," Kuehn said as she thanked her attorney, Jim Wallis of Granite City.

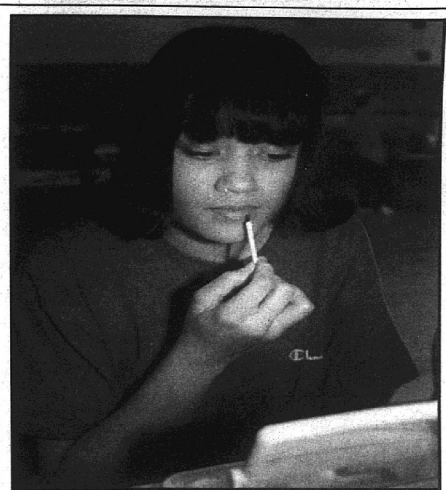
A jury found Kuehn, a Pontoon Beach police dispatcher on suspension without pay, not guilty of obstructing justice in relation to an allegation that she advised the mother of a 12-year-old Pontoon Beach girl to destroy an incriminating note in September 1991.

The alleged note accused the girl's father of sexually abusing her. The father later pleaded guilty to the sexual abuse charges and is currently in jail.

Both Kuehn and the mother were indicted by a Madison County grand jury in 1993 for conspiring to destroy the evidence.

The mother, who is still awaiting trial, testified last week that Kuehn, an acquaintance who

(See DISPATCHER, Page 7A)



I feel pretty — Marcelon Banks, 18, a student at Madison High School, applies makeup during a Mary Kay makeover at the school.

(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Aldermen to vote Tuesday City likely to pursue mixed-waste recycling

By Bob Slate
Staff writer

Granite City residents will not have to separate their recyclables from the rest of their garbage if all goes according to a plan endorsed Tuesday by city officials.

Residents would also be able to get rid of their brush, grass clippings and tree leaves at no charge, under the plan.

Nine members of the Granite City Council who attended a Sanitation Committee meeting Tuesday voted unanimously to recommend that the council direct the city attorney staff to pursue a letter of agreement with Norton Environmental of Independence, Ohio.

Two other aldermen left the meeting before the vote was taken.

The recommendation is expected to come to a full council vote Tuesday.

The agreement would guarantee Norton that the city would require its garbage hauler to take residential garbage collected in the city to a proposed Norton facility in Wood River.

Norton has proposed building a mixed-waste material recovery facility — or dirty merf — in

Norton seeks quick pact

Louis Perez, vice president of marketing for Norton Environmental Systems, said Wednesday that the Granite City Council's Sanitation Committee vote to pursue a mixed waste facility is good news.

Perez said that the city of Alton is expected to bring a similar resolution to the council floor later this month.

"As quick as the cities make a decision, the faster we can get going," he said.

"I hope we can work out an agreement with Granite City in a few days and the aldermen will have something concrete in their hands when they vote next Tuesday," Perez said.

There are a lot of communities stuck on that \$15.25 kickback promised by the county. But Granite City is only looking at about \$30,000 a year from that while yard waste is costing the city \$140,000 a year," Perez said.

"Plus we're taking their yard waste and white goods. If we're both (Norton and RRS) at \$2, which one is going to do the most for residents?" Perez asked.

"The real cost savings is the additional services being offered,"

(See NORTON, Page 7A)

Wood River. Unlike a traditional — or "clean" — merf, a mixed-waste merf collects all garbage and pulls recyclable materials from the waste stream. Norton needs a commitment from Granite City and Alton before it proceeds with its plan.

Resource Recovery Systems, based in Connecticut, has pro-

posed building a clean merf in Madison County. That facility would accept only recyclable materials that have already been pulled from the waste stream by residents and collected in a curbside program.

The Madison County Board voted 15-13 March 15 to pursue

(See RECYCLING, Page 7A)

Five-year sentence expected in arson case

A 29-year-old Venice man pleaded guilty last week to a charge of arson in connection with a fire at a downtown Granite City apartment last year.

Harold C. "Dee Dee" Koelker III, of the 300 block of Hampton Street, will be sentenced to five years in prison as a result of the guilty plea, Assistant State's Attorney Rich Rybak said.

In a statement to police taken Oct. 25, Koelker admitted to setting the fire at 1726 Edison Avenue on Sept. 4 of that year.

Koelker, who lived in the apartment with his girlfriend and their children at the time, told police he lit a tar paper roof with a cigarette lighter.

The apartment building was owned by a 70-year-old Granite City man.

Koelker, the brother of Venice Police officer Steve Koelker, was charged with the crime in December of last year. Granite City police said they had contacted Steve Koelker about

having Dee Dee Koelker turn himself in, but more than two months passed and he had not done so.

He turned himself in March 5.

Faces

Denise Saska, an associate at St. Elizabeth Medical Center for 20 years, is the new director of St. Elizabeth Health Services Home Care Services.

Home Care Services include Hospice of Madison County, Home Health and At-Home Care. All home care services are now based at 1909 Edison Ave. in Granite City.

Saska has been involved in home health care since 1989. She began working at SEMC as a nurse aid and continued her education and career mobility to her present position.

"I have a great supportive staff in Home Care. I couldn't do this job without their help," she said.



Denise Saska

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News in review

News in review provides a summary of some of the past week's stories. This column is designed for out-of-town readers who do not receive the Sunday and Wednesday Press-Record Journals.

Venice firm fined for accident

A Venice firm has been fined \$128,000 by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration for alleged safety violations that resulted in the death of a worker in November. Spectralite Consortium, Inc., was cited for two serious safety violations by the agency on May 25, and has 15 working days to contest the charges. A third violation was considered less serious, according to a press release from OSHA.

On Nov. 29, Jodie Richie of Granite City was killed in an explosion at the plant's magnesium casting area. Two other workers were injured, one seriously.

Flood insurance at risk

A delay of more than a year in complying with a request for information on Pontoon Beach's flood elevations from the Federal Emergency Management Agency could jeopardize the village's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. Village residents with flood insurance could also have to pay a surcharge to FEMA as a result of the delay by village officials. In a letter dated May 11, Janet M. Odeshoo, director of FEMA's Region 5 mitigation division, warned village officials that unless the information is provided by June 12, the agency would consider placing the village on probation.

Center expansion planned

A four-building residential development for adults with emotional problems is planned for the area around St. Thomas Road and old U.S. 66.

Orville Mercer, executive director of the Metro Center for Life Management, said that residents of the proposed center would pose no problem for the surrounding community. A zoning hearing is scheduled for June 22 at the site.

School budget revision needed

The Granite City School District will have to revise its 1994-95 budget next month.

The school district will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. June 27 on the proposed amended budget. Ratification is expected to follow later that evening.

Gene Logas, director of finance for the school district, said the budget has to be amended for three basic reasons: to include proceeds from a \$12 million bond sale not included in the original budget; to increase authorized expenditures and revenues in the building fund; and to increase authorized expenditures in the transportation fund.

Road project discussed

Residents and businesses along Pontoon Road should not have to suffer too much with a \$1.5 million road improvement project slated to begin next year.

Phase II of the Pontoon Road improvement is currently in the design stages, said John Hales of the Sheppard, Morgan and Schwab engineering firm.

Many of the businesses in the Phase I construction area complained that the project prevented customer access — to the point where some businesses completely shut down.

Grant funds to be available

Mayor Ron Selph feels that community development block grant funds can best be used by spreading them throughout Granite City.

Last week, the City Council authorized Selph to apply to Madison County for the federal grant funds.

While the city has in the past targeted individual neighborhoods — East Granite, downtown and West Granite, for example — for improvements with its CDBG allocation, Selph and his staff are working to spread this year's allocation of \$754,000 around in a broad area.

Hagnauer celebrates 40 years

Few people have spent more time in meetings than Madison County Board Chairman Nelson "Nellie" Hagnauer over the last 40 years — but that is just the way he likes it.

Hagnauer, 67, was first elected to public office as an assistant township supervisor in 1955 in Granite City Township. And the feeling of accomplishment being a public servant gave him, he said, has kept him going ever since.

Bill would limit auto dealer suits

Automobile dealers say a proposed law is a roadblock against frivolous lawsuits, but opponents claim it gives dealers the green light to take advantage of consumers.

"Innocent until proven guilty doesn't always apply in lawsuits," said Ray Gremli Jr., co-owner of Ray Gremli Chevrolet Inc. in Alton. "Dealers are blackmailed into either going before the courts or settling out of court."

A measure making it harder to sue an auto dealer for fraud is in Gov. Jim Edgar's hands after passing the Illinois House 70-43 last week. The Senate approved the bill last month.

The Illinois Automobile Dealers Association contends current law is spurring an assembly line of litigation against honest auto dealers who do not intentionally defraud

consumers. "This bill is designed to unclog a crowded court docket," association attorney Julie Cardosi said.

According to the association, 250 such cases are pending in Illinois and most are settled for about \$25,000, twice the average damages alleged.

"That's only about two per cent," countered attorney Michelle Gilbert of the Legal Assistance Foundation. "When you think about how many people buy cars, two lawsuits per cent shouldn't surprise anyone."

The proposed law states that to sue an auto dealer, a buyer must prove "a public injury, a pattern or an effect on consumers and the public interest."

The "public injury" stipulation requires a

buyer who claims to have been ripped off to prove in court that others were defrauded in the same way, that a law was broken or that the dealer could repeat the alleged fraud.

"Its passage (would mean) that individual consumers could lose their right to pursue a case against a fraudulent car dealer because they are unable to prove a pattern of deceit or public injury," Gilbert said.

The legislation would not affect the relief new car buyers can get under the New Vehicle Buyer Protection Act, or "lemon law," in effect since 1984.

If a car requires the same type of repair four or more times within the warranty period, the "lemon law" requires the dealer to replace it with a comparable vehicle or give a refund.

— From the Alton Telegraph

Crash kills Granite woman

An 81-year-old Granite City woman died Tuesday from injuries she sustained in a traffic accident near Springfield.

Agnes Fisher was pronounced dead at St. John's Hospital in Springfield at 11:52 p.m. Tuesday, according to the Sangamon County Coroner's office.

Fisher was driving a 1992 Oldsmobile Cutlass on Interstate 72 near the Riverton exit at 11:12 a.m. when her car was struck by a semi-tractor trailer, Illinois State Police said.

Fisher had apparently stopped on the shoulder of the eastbound lanes, backed the car, and attempted to cross the two eastbound lanes to the westbound lanes when her car was struck on the driver side, police said.

A coroner inquest is pending. Juanita Crawley of Granite City, a friend of Fisher, said Fisher was active in a senior citizens club on Thursdays and loved to play pinocle.

Free food for area flood victims

The Salvation Army is providing food and cleaning supplies for those recovering from the flood waters. The distribution is being handled at the main office, located at 3007 East 23rd St. in Granite City, next to Lake Elementary School.

Those who want the items should bring gallon containers so the agency can break down the large commercial units into sizable portions. Items include shovels, disinfectants, hand brooms, buckets, window cleaners, all-purpose cleaners and insect repellent. There also is a supply of used furniture for anyone who needs it.

"To date, the Salvation Army has served 9,640 meals to 2,410 persons," Lt. Tim Miller said. "Twenty-one volunteers have assisted for a total 372 hours of service. I can not tell enough how much I appreciate the support many have given in order to serve others."

"Frances, a long-time volunteer of the Army, served refreshments all day long only to find that her house had also gone underwater and spent the rest of the night working to save her own house," Miller said.



(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)

Poster winner — Andi Miller, left, children's librarian at the Granite City Public Library, presents Jessica Huniak with \$25 for winning first place in the library's poster and bookmark contest. Huniak's winning bookmark will be made into bookmarks to be given out at the library. Second place winner was Drew Taylor and third place winner was Julie Scott. The contest was open to all junior high students; more than 150 entries were received.

Shell tax proposal meets criticism

A Shell Oil Co. request to reduce its assessed value will devastate area taxing districts if it is granted, officials say.

Representatives from Shell met May 25 with Madison County Supervisor of Assessments Robert Harris and Wood River Township Assessor Kay Longman to request a 64 percent reduction in the company's assessed value, a reduction that would decrease its property taxes by about two-thirds, said Dave McKinney, Shell's manager of community relations.

"It's a painful step for us to take because we know the impact it will have on the community, but we're in such a poor financial situation that we need to do what we can to survive."

The request to reduce the plant's assessed value from \$281 million to \$100 million will be reviewed over the next three weeks, Harris said. "The appraisal they have is in-house. We will do our own, and we are looking into it very closely."

Shell's property taxes would be reduced from \$7.4 million to \$2.4 million per year under the company's proposal. The

reduced assessment would hit 19 taxing jurisdictions, with the village of Roxana, Roxana School District and Madison County being hit the hardest, McKinney said.

Madison County would see its revenue from Shell decrease from \$820,000 to \$271,000 per year, but the county would have an easier time absorbing the loss than the village and the School

District, McKinney said. Wood River Township Hospital would also take a tax hit. "The three major industries in our area — Olin, Clark and Shell — represent about 40 percent of our tax revenue," said Jerry Boudin, Wood River Township Hospital president. "I don't have the exact figures tonight, but it could mean a lot."

— From the Alton Telegraph

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THE LAW AND YOU

By RICK REED
Attorney At Law

Sometimes the question arises as to whether a person is entitled to notice and a hearing before he or she can be held in contempt of court. Illinois courts have defined criminal contempt of court as "conduct which is calculated to embarrass, hinder or obstruct a court in its administration of justice or take away from its authority or dignity." The courts of this state have recognized two forms of criminal contempt: direct and indirect.

Direct criminal contempt is contemptuous conduct occurring "in the very presence of the judge." Direct criminal contempt may be found and punished without a hearing because all elements are within the immediate knowledge of the court. Indirect criminal contempt is contemptuous conduct "which in whole or in part occurred out of the presence of the court, the presentation of evidence." Since findings of indirect contempt require proof of matters outside the immediate knowledge of the judge, the person charged with contempt is entitled to notice, an opportunity to answer, and a hearing.

In one recent case, a husband appeared in court with his wife in a divorce proceeding, and on the way out of the courtroom, he allegedly spit on her face.

The wife's attorney alerted the judge to the occurrence, and the judge scheduled a contempt proceeding later in the day.

At the hearing, the husband denied spitting upon his wife. She testified that she was leaving the courtroom, he pushed his way toward her and spit on the left side of her face and on her glasses. Her glasses were admitted into evidence and revealed a dried substance on the left lens.

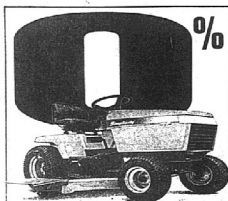
An independent witness who was in court on the morning in question testified that she observed the husband spit on the wife's face. The husband again took the witness stand on his own behalf and stated that a gland under his tongue sprayed saliva involuntarily. The husband further stated that he was under stress and that this glacial reaction sometimes occurred during stressful moments. His dentist testified on his behalf and indicated that it was not uncommon for someone under stress to have fluid released when he talked.

The judge found that the husband intentionally spit on his wife, which caused a disruption to the courtroom and interrupted the administration of justice. The Court sentenced the husband to three days in jail.

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Federal grants, loans available

President Clinton declares 2 counties disaster areas

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Individuals, families and small businesses affected by recent flooding are now eligible for federal grants and low-interest loans.

The money became available after President Bill Clinton declared Madison and St. Clair counties federal disaster areas on Tuesday.

"This is much-needed news for the residents of Madison and St. Clair counties," said U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello, D-Bellefonte. "In many areas, flooding is as bad or worse than it was in 1993. Federal disaster declaration was warranted, and I am pleased the President took this action."

According to Chris Tamminga, a spokesman for the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the state had sent a recommendation to Washington on May 22.

Tamminga said aid would be for individuals, families and small businesses only.

"There is no public assistance

to local units of government," she said.

However, that could change after damage assessment teams make a more complete survey. She said if floodwaters continue to drop, those teams will begin next week.

"It's kind of hard to do damage assessments while the water is still up," she said. "We're kind of waiting to see what happens."

Madison County Emergency Management Agency director John Quigley said he hopes federal officials would provide some funds for local governments.

"A lot of small taxing bodies have used up all their budgets," he said.

Linda Sacia, a public information officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said the agency was not planning to open any disaster centers like the ones used during the Flood of 1993.

"We find it works much faster

When calling FEMA, she said residents should have as much information as possible.

That includes a general list of destroyed or damaged items, insurance policy numbers, social security numbers, and good directions to the property.

Sacia also said the agency has no way of knowing how much funding is available because funding will be based on the number and extent of claims.

Tamminga also said it has been difficult to determine exactly how many people have been affected by the flood.

In Madison County, she said approximately 130 families have been displaced.

FEMA has set up toll-free telephone lines to handle assistance requests. The lines will be open seven days a week until further notice.

To apply for assistance, call

Venice looks at home rule

Plan would open way for revenue tax

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Last month it was converting Venice's Union Electric plant to burn trash.

Last week it was adding a trash collection fee.

At Tuesday's city council meeting, Mayor Tyrone Echols discussed turning Venice into a home rule city, which would allow the council to pass a revenue tax, which would mostly affect workers who don't live in the city.

All are measures talked about or considered by the city council to raise badly needed revenue to provide services to residents. A home rule city has greater latitude in passing laws and raising taxes, and is exempt

from some state legislation. Locally, Granite City, National City and Fairview Heights are all home rule.

Venice voters would have to approve such a change. Echols' suggestion was prompted by the possibility of gaining approximately \$15,000-30,000 per year in tax revenue with little impact on residents.

Echols said between 95-98 percent of workers in Venice do not live in the town.

"There are untapped resources when you consider the people who work here but don't live here," Echols said. "That is revenue that is getting away and revenue we sorely need."

"When you're in a community

he added, "It bothers me to continually pass that burden to the poor taxpayers."

"It's why I thought about the trash collection fee, which would defray some costs and we would not have to go back and continually beat the taxpayer across his head," Echols said.

"But inevitably we have to understand that the service we want we'll have to pay for."

The council took no action, but Echols asked aldermen to ask residents about converting to home rule.

Echols said it would probably be difficult to convince voters to switch.

"People are very suspicious about home rule, because it gives the city a chance to tax without referendum," he said. Also at the meeting, Alderman John Ervin, chairman of the Street and Alley Committee, said there would be another committee meeting Wednesday at 7 p.m. to discuss purchasing a new garbage truck and instituting a trash hauling fee. He said a recommendation would come to the full council at the next meeting.

Farmers still holding out hope for crops

The recent flood and downpours have damaged thousands of acres of wheat and corn fields in the Madison County area, but farmers are still holding out hope that their fields will dry out enough to get a soybean or late corn crop in the ground.

Heavy rain over the last few weeks has delayed planting of 1,100 acres of soybeans on the Gordon Gass farm in Chouteau Township.

"I haven't planted a single soybean," he said. "If I don't get some soybeans in the ground, I'll lose a lot of yields during the harvest."

More than 11 inches of rain poured on Gass' fields the week of May 8, he said.

"The soil is 100 percent saturated and running over with rainwater," he said. "It's the wettest spring I've seen in my 44 years of farming."

Only 5 percent of the corn crop has been planted in Madison County this spring, said Ray Givlio of the Madison County Consolidated Farm Service Agency.

Park photo ID session tonight

The Granite City Park District will hold a photo identification card session from 7 to 8:30 p.m. tonight (Thursday) at the Brown Recreation Center, Franklin and Ames Avenues.

Park District residents possessing a photo identification card receive substantial discounts on park programs and pool admission.

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June Bernaix, right, hands her book to author John Lutz for him to sign during a book signing at the Granite City branch library on May 20.

No mystery

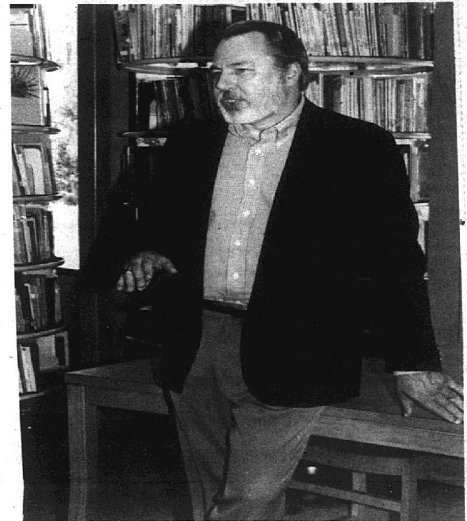
Popular writer appears here

Popular mystery writer John Lutz recently signed copies and answered questions about his latest book, "Torch," at the Granite City Branch Library.

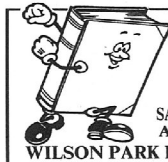
Lutz, 55, is the author of more than a dozen mystery and suspense novels including "Single White Female," which was made into a major motion picture; "Kiss," for which he won the Private Eye Writers of America Shamus Award; "Flame," "Scorcher," and "Tropical Heat."

"Torch" takes place in central Florida and revolves around an investigation by private investigator Fred Carver. Lutz's central character in previous novels, into the death of a woman 3 minutes after she hires him to follow her.

Lutz was born in Dallas, was educated at Meramec Community College in St. Louis and currently resides in Webster Groves. He has been employed as a construction worker, theater usher, warehouseman, truck driver, switchboard operator and police officer. He and his wife, Barbara, have three children.



Author John Lutz conducts a question-and-answer session at the Granite City Branch Library.



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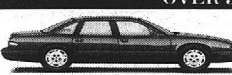
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Laura

Opinion

Why let budget hurt veterans?

(The following guest column is by Jesse Brown, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.)

As we approach the end of widespread commemoration of the momentous events of World War II, are we seeing signs of an impending memory lapse about what our veterans have done for America?

Soon the euphoric celebrations and solemn observances, which in the last four years reminded both old and new generations what millions of veterans did for this nation, will fade from consciousness. But already, it will have surfaced, reflecting a mood that seems bent on trivializing and demeaning veterans' service to the nation.

IN RECENT months, there have been particularly mean-spirited political, Washington think-tank and media broadsides on federal programs for veterans.

An attempt in the House to cut funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical budget was defeated, but not without a blistering outcry from some columnists and government watchdogs.

A national news magazine's bitter article all but said many veterans are sacred cows, demagogues and panders.

Veterans' programs have been labeled as sweet deals, third-rate, wasteful, useless and disgraceful.

The thrust of much of this viciousness is that most veterans do not deserve anything and that taxpayers are being ripped off.

IT WILL BE a sad and dangerous time in America's history when we allow the naive and ill-informed to lead us away from our most solemn obligation — caring for our defenders.

Were these revisionists actually to set foot in one of VA's medical facilities, they would find compassionate and exceptional health care being provided to veterans disabled by battlefield shrapnel, amputees, blinded veterans, spinal-cord injured veterans, older veterans and combat veterans in need of psychological counseling.

They also would witness poor veterans receiving care that the profit-driven private sector is not likely to provide.

Every American also benefits from a VA research program that has given us many medical innovations and breakthroughs and training environment for more than half of the nation's practicing physicians.

There is the notion that the federal government should not deliver health-care services to veterans. "Costs much too much, isn't it done well, can be done better by the private sector." Here again, veiled by the noble motives of budget balancing and deficit reduction, critics lay claim to a body of knowledge they expect others to blindly accept.

Solid, independent and compelling data are readily available demonstrating that VA care is cost-effective and that its hospital quality scores are higher than the non-federal sector.

Critics proclaim that if the government would just wise up and issue medical vouchers to veterans, not only would the taxpayers be happy, but so would millions of veterans. Wrong.

WHAT VETERANS want is simplification of the laws that now restrict their access to VA facilities where they are certain to find care that puts their needs first.

Among the suggestions that mask anti-veterans feelings is one that would only allow benefits for "real" veterans — a filter separating those who were injured in combat from "slackers" who had limbs torn off in accidents during their service.

Low-income veterans who suffered no service-related medical consequences would also fall to make the cut. Common sense and fairness preclude such propositions.

Ask any combat-disabled veteran if he resents that his buddies made it back home without a scratch. Tell the pilot who shot down a dozen enemy planes and today cannot afford cardiac surgery that we owe him nothing.

Explain to the veteran of Normandy who cannot afford treatment for Alzheimer's that he has not earned his government's assistance. Are we to deny future medical care to highly-decorated Persian Gulf, Vietnam, Korea, World War II and future veterans?

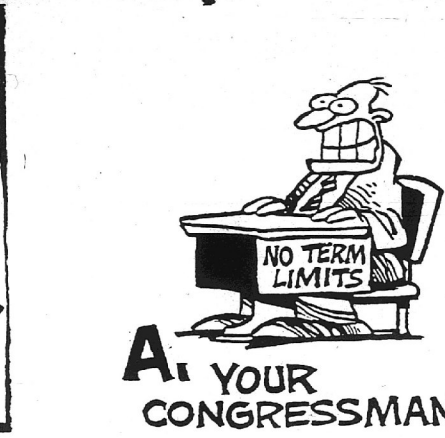
HOW CAN a nation that supports billion-dollar battles in the name of freedom adopt penny-pinching policies toward its veterans?

The vast majority of Americans recognize that the government created our veterans, asked them to give up everything — homes, families, jobs, school — to stand vigil over freedom and democracy. Still, there are those with the gall and arrogance to "re-evaluate" the sacred obligation to help veterans enjoy the fruits of their sacrifices. And judging by these latest attacks, their numbers appear to be growing.

The next time there is artillery booming in the distance ... the next time missiles are aimed at America ... the next time the next time an enemy democracy, as America once was, reaches out for a lifeline ... the next time a mother caresses a photograph of a son lost in war or a child must visit a parent at a national cemetery ... the next time a soldier returns home blinded or without limbs ... be sure to remind me why the wealthy need a tax cut and why deficit reduction should be achieved on the backs of veterans.

I keep missing the point.

NAME ANOTHER PUBLIC FIGURE WHO, ONCE YOU LET HIM IN THE HOUSE, WILL NEVER LEAVE?



Rain not a friend in low places

We were in the southern part of the country when torrential rains struck Madison and St. Clair counties in mid-May. We returned here in time to view some of the flooding and to obtain Td shots, tetanus and diphtheria vaccine.

The main thing I know about Tetanus (lockjaw) is that the most misspelled words (many people omit the first "h").

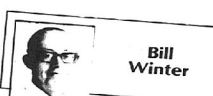
The Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Health have urged vaccination for adults every 10 years, especially in areas where flooding has occurred.

Tetanus (lockjaw) is caused by a germ that enters through a cut or wound. It causes serious, painful spasms of all muscles and can lead to locking of the jaws.

Diphtheria spreads when germs pass from an infected person to the nose or throat of others. It can lead to breathing problems, heart failure, paralysis or death.

Most residents, fortunately, consider few flooding problems despite the fact that the western area of Illinois Metro East is part of the American Bottom.

The land below the bluffs long ago was carved out by the Mississippi River, which periodically tries to reclaim it.



Bill Winter

Aided by rainfall to the north, Old Man River caused the Great Flood of 1993, damaging much property and endangering many families.

Now, although the 1993 flood was a "500-year flood," persistent May 1995 downpours in this region caused another round of flood woes only two years after the big flood.

Granite City's main populated area has not flooded since 1903, almost a full century ago, but I can recall volunteering to fill sandbags (and get out of attending classes) a couple of springtimes while attending Granite City High School in the mid-1940s.

About 1948, there was severe flash-flooding in Metro East and four persons drowned in the Belleville area. By then I was a news reporter and toured the region in a rented airplane to help cover the flood story.

The year of 1956 also stands out in my memory. We were married in late May and

journeyed out of town on our honeymoon. Four inches of rain fell here in an hour's time and flooded the basement of our newly-purchased home.

We were in the South once again May 15-17, 1966, when about five or six inches of rain inundated low areas, causing evacuations in Caseyville and preventing racing at Fairmount Park, Collinsville, where hundreds of horses had to be rescued.

Walter "Shang" Greathouse, president of the Metro East Sanitary District, pulled a few miracles out of his hat to save the local area from the river's threat in 1993.

This spring, Greathouse had all 15 stations operating at full capacity to pump overflow water over the levee and into the Mississippi.

However, the weather was "the worst" he has ever seen, and the volume of drainage exceeded the district's ability to handle it.

Why was it so bad? The intensity of the rain was a major factor. Also, development of bottomland and above-the-bluffs property has led to less saturation of the ground and faster roof and pavement runoff.

There also is concern that enhancement of some levees has narrowed the river channel,

increasing the depth of the water in that channel.

Communities in existence for generations must not be abandoned to the river but some new standards need to be considered. An example is Chouteau Island, where the 1993 flooding resulted in its permanent utilization being limited to farm crops.

Meanwhile, the state has issued "After the Flood" handbooks explaining that "the tragic consequences of a flood can be compounded by injury or illness if certain precautions are not taken."

Personal precautions that are outlined include hand washing, protective clothing and potential disease outbreaks due to bacteria, viruses or other infectious organisms.

Food safety rules cover examination of canned goods, what to do when your freezer fails and what to do if your refrigerator fails.

Handling of drinking water and cooking water also are discussed, along with cleanup of flooded areas, gas pipe leaks, sewage disposal and disinfecting drilled, dug or bored wells.

Copies of the handbook may be obtained by writing the Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Communications, 535 W. Jefferson St., Springfield, IL 62761.

Letters to the editor

Elitists and individual rights

TO THE EDITOR:

It was very sobering to realize how much faith the city, county and state elected officials have in the average penniless citizen (voters) of the state of Illinois. They have become governmental elitists. I will not forget them on election day.

By the way, why is it we have the right to protect ourselves and families in our homes, but once we leave that home, we are at the mercy of muscles and muggers.

Keep restricting our rights, Mr. Elitist, and we will even lose the measures for protecting our families in our own homes.

DONALD L. BALLARD
Granite City

Which is party of the affluent?

TO THE EDITOR:

Let me see if I can get this straight:

1) President Clinton charged \$25,000 per plate for his recent fund-raiser at a movie mogul's Hollywood home.

2) The Democrats are apparently buying votes in St. Clair County.

3) Rep. (Richard) Durbin out-

spent his opponent \$10 to every \$1 in his last campaign.

4) Sens. Ted Kennedy and Jay Rockefeller are two of the richest men and most dedicated Democrats in the United States.

5) The Republicans are the "party of the rich?"

SHARON HOOVER
Collinsville

Thanks go to flood fighters

TO THE EDITOR:

Wednesday, at 9:20, my husband, Don Gay, went to be with the Lord. Only one daughter and myself were with him as the rest of our eight children and spouses were home fighting floodwaters.

They were building a wall of sandbags around my house. I was amazed at the people who were here working. Besides my family, there were a lot of church family and a lot of faces I didn't know.

Many were young people. We hear so much bad about young folks, but here they were working very hard to save my home. And they did it.

I want to thank all those who fought the water and also those who brought in food and sent flowers and gifts.

Thanks isn't enough. God bless all of you.

BETTY GAY
Pontoon Beach

One more signal of penal system trouble

(The following editorial is reprinted from the Alton Telegraph.)

The troublesome tale of a convicted sex offender who walked out on a court furlough is one more signal that our penal system is in serious trouble.

Even while judges are handing out furloughs carrying the promise of substantial reductions in prison sentences if criminals return on time, the Legislature is considering so-called truth-in-sentencing bills that would require offenders involved in violent crimes to serve at least 85 percent of their sentences.

Those two trends represent two very real and somewhat contradictory concerns: public outrage over rampant crime and the enormous cost to taxpayers of running and operating prisons.

In advisory referendums last fall, many Illinoisans, including Madison Countyans, voted overwhelmingly in favor of some sort of truth-in-sentencing standards.

That vote reflects public discontent over the routine practice of granting prisoners substantial reductions in prison time for good behavior or other performance incentives.

Similarly, furloughs are increasingly offered to convicted criminals who can expect reduced sentences if they return to court on time. Well, if they could follow rules, they probably wouldn't be criminals in the first place. In many cases, prisoners fail to keep faith with the very generous terms of the furloughs.

Last week, for example, a 40-year-old man who pleaded guilty to raping a woman in Alton failed to return from a three-day furlough. Even the man's own sister condemned the furlough for the four-time sex offender and his mother ultimately turned him in. He will now serve natural life in prison instead of a 30-year sentence.

"I've had it," the man's sister said. "He is a repeat offender, and he should have never been set loose to begin with, not even for three days."

The frustration is real. But, unfortunately, the problem is not judges who are eager to give furloughs and promises of lighter sentences or corrections officials eager to free prisoners long before their terms are up.

The brutal reality is that prisons have a limited capacity and the point has been reached when new prisoners can be taken in only if old ones leave.

A GOP truth-in-sentencing proposal now working its way through the Legislature would ensure that prisoners stay in jail for the majority of their sentences.

The cost for the additional prison beds necessary, however, is estimated at \$320 million over the next 10 years. An even more stringent Democratic proposal would have cost an estimated \$7.2 billion over the next 10 years.

Clearly, it will take more than just our anger or our frustration to solve the problem. We must explore every aspect of our criminal justice system from prevention to punishment. And we must be prepared to shoulder the burdens the solutions may demand.

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Obituaries

Adele Deckard

Adele E. Deckard, 74, of Venice, died at 12:45 a.m. Tuesday, May 30, 1995, at Highland Health Care Center in Highland, after being ill since 1979. She was born Oct. 12, 1920, in Madison and had been a resident of Venice since 1947.

A typist with AFSCME, she was of the Baptist faith. Survivors include one brother, Kenneth Deckard of Madison; and three sisters, Roberta Cook of Pocatonton, Doris McCord of Brooksville, Fla., and Marian Sanders of St. Clair, Mo.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert L. and Beulah P. (Waiters) Deckard; and one brother, Ralph Deckard, who died in 1992.

Services were to be held at 10 a.m. today, Thursday, at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road in Granite City, with the Rev. Vernon Covington officiating. Burial in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Glen Carbon.

Charlotte Deal

Charlotte Ruth "Meme" (Farrell) Deal of Lafayette, formerly of Granite City, died at 8:08 p.m. Monday, May 29, 1995, at Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center. She was born in Granite City and had been a resident

of Lafayette since 1961.

A long-time member of the Lafayette First Baptist Church, she was a member of the Pink Ladies of Lafayette General Medical Center, past president of the Lafayette Chapter of the Louisiana Engineering Society Auxiliary and served as co-PTA president for two terms at S.J. Montgomery School and co-treasurer of the Lafayette High School Band Parents Club.

Survivors include her husband, Kenneth E. Deal; three daughters, Connie Boyer of Lafayette and Jan McPhee and Judy Moeller, both of Carrollton, Texas; and four grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one daughter, Donna Marie Deal; her parents, Clyde R. and Ollie Jane (Mercer) Farrell; and one sister, Ollie Marie Parks.

Services were to be held at 10 a.m. today, Thursday, at First Baptist Church in Lafayette. Burial in Forest Park Cemetery in Shreveport, La.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Delhomme Funeral Home in Lafayette.

Agnes Fisher

Agnes I. Fisher, 81, of Granite City, was pronounced dead at 11:52 p.m. Tuesday, May 30, 1995, at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Ill., following an automobile

accident.

Arrangements are pending with Warner Chapel for Funerals, 3939 Lake Drive in Pontoon Beach, 797-1009.

Hattie Christian

Hattie Christian, 77, of East St. Louis, died Thursday, May 25, 1995, at Leleiville. She was born in Scooba, Miss.

Mrs. Christian was employed with East St. Louis School District 189 as a cafeteria worker.

Survivors include three sons, Theodore C. Christian Jr. of Springfield, Taft Lloyd Christian Sr. of Davenport, Iowa, and Charles Clinton Christian of Brooklyn; four daughters, Fran Hairston of Glenwood, Ill., Yonnie Cox of St. Louis, Alzada Christian Carr of East St. Louis and Sabrina Johnson of Washington Park; two sisters, Lottie Foster and Helen Hoosman, both of East St. Louis; 20 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Visitation is from 4 to 9 p.m. today, Thursday, June 1, at Officer Funeral Home, 2114 Missouri Ave. in East St. Louis.

Services are at 1 p.m. Friday, June 2, at Wesley-Bethel United Methodist Church, 1411 Missouri Ave. in East St. Louis. Burial will be in Sunset Gardens of Memory in Millstadt.

Recycling

(Continued from Page 1A)

the curbside program.

A merf of some sort is needed to meet a state law requiring all counties to recycle at least 25 percent of the waste stream by July 1, 1996.

The aldermen in attendance Tuesday cited economics, convenience and the level of participation as reasons to pursue an agreement with a mixed-waste vendor.

Alderman Nick Petrillo, chairman of the Sanitation Committee, said that the benefits of the two alternatives had been thoroughly examined and that the only real question that remained was exact cost.

Under the city's current garbage contract with Waste Management, residents pay \$6 per month for garbage collection and the city subsidizes an additional \$1.35 of the cost. A new garbage contract must be negotiated this year.

"In my own personal opinion, the committee should make a decision. We all know what the questions will be (about cost). And the answer is, we don't

know what the county plan will cost," Petrillo said.

Because county officials will not say where the proposed RRS facility would be built, it is impossible to determine the cost of the clean merf plan to the city, Petrillo said.

"This is a very difficult, complicated issue. But basically, both groups say this will cost an additional \$2 (per household per month)."

"If the clean merf isn't going to take yard waste, tires, oil or white goods; and the clean merf requires our residents to separate; and the mixed-waste merf will take yard waste, tires, oil and white goods; and residents will just handle their trash the same way they do now with the mixed-waste merf; then which one is giving us the best bang for our buck?" Petrillo asked.

Alderman Bob Shipley, a member of the committee that visited a Norton facility in Ohio and an RRS facility in Florida, agreed with Petrillo.

"If all costs are the same, which we don't know for sure, do we want to have to separate our own or do we want someone to do it for us and take care of our

yard waste too?" he asked.

While the county has promised to rebate \$15.25 per ton of recyclable material to cities utilizing the proposed RRS facility, City Controller K.P. MacTaggart said that translates to between \$30,000 and \$40,000 a year for Granite City.

On the other hand, MacTaggart pointed out, the city is currently paying at least \$10,000 a year to take leaves to the Chain of Rocks landfill.

MacTaggart had a letter from Louis Perer, vice president of marketing for Norton, saying that the proposed mixed-waste merf would have a composting facility where residents may drop off yard waste at no charge.

Under the state recycling law, compost may be counted toward the 25 percent requirement.

Some city officials have discussed the possibility that the street department collect leaves and grass clippings for city residents and take them to the compost site. Others have suggested that private enterprises will take care of yard waste if a free composting facility is available.

Edgar signs bill to assist Fairmount, other racetracks

Gov. Jim Edgar brought salvation to struggling Fairmount Racetrack in Collinsville Tuesday by signing into law legislation designed to stabilize the horse racing industry.

The law reduces future state taxes on racetracks to allow more money to be poured into purses for horse owners and breeders. That should result in expansion of Madison County stables and higher quality racing at Fairmount, officials said.

Patricia Whitworth of Troy, secretary of the Illinois Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders' Foundation, has called the legislation "salvation" for Fairmount.

And Rep. Jay Hoffman, D-Columbia, agrees that the law puts the future of Fairmount Park on much steeper ground. "It certainly is a shot in the arm for Fairmount, and will ensure that live racing remains there," Hoffman said Wednesday.

The law allows horse races to be piped into Illinois from around the world and for 14 more off-track betting parlors to be opened. Twenty-nine parlors are currently operating; about two dozen are operating.

Fairmount will be allowed to keep all revenue from races simulcast at the track and at its off-track betting parlors, including one at the Alton Belle Casino. Hoffman said that off-track revenue with the tracks where the races are held.

Edgar said he acted to help the horse racing industry "survive against odds made more difficult by the advent and success of riverboat casino gambling."

The law will generate more money from bettors to help boost purse money necessary to

attract top quality horses, the governor said.

The racing industry estimates another \$300 million could be bet on races each year in Illinois because of simulcasting. More than \$1 billion is bet now.

The law could boost purse money in Illinois by \$39 million a year with the Illinois tracks and off-track betting parlors piling in televised simulcasts of a full card of races from around the world.

Whitworth called the changes great news for the horse racing industry, and for Fairmount Park in particular. She said Wednesday that additional money for purses should trickle down to people throughout the industry.

"When you get a raise, you go out and buy a refrigerator," Whitworth said. "When a horseman gets more money he

goes out and buys another horse.

This way the economy of the industry.

"Most importantly, I hope it will attract more people in Illinois to breed their mares and raise their horses in Illinois. We want to make sure the agricultural industry benefits from this, not just the racing community."

Whitworth said adding more simulcast races at Fairmount should help the track compete with nearby gambling boats, which offer the instant gratification to gamblers of pulling a lever on a slot machine.

With a full card of simulcast races, bettors should be able to wager on a race every five minutes, she said.

— From the Alton Telegraph

Property tax cap bill dies

SPRINGFIELD — Proposals to control Downstate property tax increases have been pushed off by the House at least until the fall session.

Deputy Majority Leader Rep. Tom Ryder, R-Jerseyville, said there was no consensus on what should be done about the issue. He said hearings may be held over the summer.

A bill that was approved by the Senate but died in the House would have permitted 39 Downstate county boards, including those in Madison and Jersey counties, to have the option of placing a binding referendum on property tax caps on the November 1996 ballot.

The referendum would ask voters whether they want real estate tax increases to be limited to no more than 5 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever was less.

Those limits are in effect in the six Chicago metropolitan areas. However, the law was directly imposed by the Legislature.

The House moved a bill out of committee that would require advisory referendums on the 1996 ballot for the six largest Downstate counties, including Madison, but it was not called on the House floor.

Rep. Ron Stephens, R-Troy, said he would push for a statewide advisory referendum during the fall session.

— From the Alton Telegraph

Strawberry Festival Saturday

The Sarah Group of Christian Women's Fellowship met recently in the home of Janet Wilton of Glen Carbon. Ruby Hart acted as hostess, serving a brunch to Wilma Pulaski, Dee Yates, Jo Stephens, Mary Lee Lurton, Rudy Lelk, Doris Pekarik, Marge Kacera and Lena Seitzer.

Jo Stephens, chairman, opened the meeting with the CWP prayer. New officers were elected for 1995-96 as follows: Jo Stephens, chairman; Marge Kacera, study and worship chairman; Doris Pekarik, secretary and treasurer; Ann Osborn and Dee Yates, service; Ruby Hart, membership; Wilma Pulaski, cares and concerns; and Ruth Lelk, nominating.

The annual strawberry festival tickets and flyers were distributed. This will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Central Christian Church, 2020 Johnson Road in Granite City. Bakery goods, Christmas crafts and T-shirt paintings are some of the many booths. Sloppy joes, hot dogs, slaw, homemade strawberry shortcake and ice cream will be the menu. Door prizes will be awarded during the day.

Stephens reminded the group that the new officers for the general assembly will be installed June 1 by Joyce Bennicoff at Central Christian Church. Stephens then led the study and worship entitled "In, But Not of the World," taken from the First Book of John.

The meeting closed with the CWP benediction. The next Sarah Group meeting, to be held in June, will be a trip to Kimmicks, Mo.

Book sale Friday, Saturday at park

The Granite City Friends of the Library's annual book sale will be Friday and Saturday at the Wilson Park ice rink, located at the intersection of Benton and Oregon avenues. All books will be 25 cents. Magazines also will be available.

The sale is open 7 to 9 p.m. Friday and admission is \$1. Friends of the Library members will have no admission charge.

Saturday's hours are 9 a.m. to noon; admission is free. Proceeds of the sale will help sponsor activities for the library's summer programs and purchase needed items for the library district.

Anyone wishing to donate books can drop them off at the main library. Books also can be dropped off at the Wilson Park ice rink from 9 a.m. to noon Friday.

Funeral summary

Area deaths reported in this week's Sunday and Wednesday newspapers include:

BRYANT, Christine (Keel), 63, of Granite City, formerly of Dover, Tenn., died at 4:16 p.m. Friday, May 26, 1995, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Services were Tuesday at Mercer Mortuary, Granite City, by the Rev. Ed Shennell. Burial in St. John Cemetery, Granite City. Donations to the family of Christine Bryant.

CATHEY, John H., 87, of Granite City, died at 7:20 a.m. Friday, May 26, 1995, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Services were Tuesday at Irwin Chapel, Granite City, by the Rev. Mel Sorensen. Burial in Lake View Memorial Gardens, Fairview Heights. Memorials to First Church of the Nazarene, Pontoon Beach.

CHENAULT, Frances M. (Eldridge), 60, of Granite City, died Friday, May 26, 1995, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Services were Tuesday at Warner Chapel for Funerals, Pontoon Beach, by the Rev. Ed Hart. Burial in Memorial Park Cemetery, St. Louis.

CLARK, Eugene A. "John," 91, of Granite City, died Monday, May 29, 1995, at Christian North-east Hospital, St. Louis. Services were Wednesday at Irwin Chapel, Granite City, by the Rev.

Ben Leonard. Burial in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon.

JOHNSON, Opal (Hotz), 83, of Granite City, died Sunday, May 28, 1995, at Anna Henry Nursing Home, Edwardsville. Services were Tuesday at Warner Chapel for Funerals, Pontoon Beach, by the Rev. Robert DeGrand. Burial in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County.

LANE, Ray E., 85, of Granite City, died at 4:38 p.m. Friday, May 26, 1995, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Services were Sunday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary, Granite City, by the Rev. Gene MacManus. Burial in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County. Memorials to the American Lung Association.

NELSON, Hubie Lee, 61, of Madison, died at 8:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 23, 1995, at his residence. Services were Friday at New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Venice, by the Rev. John H. Williams. Burial in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery, St. Louis County. Arrangements by Warner Funeral Home, East St. Louis.

NINKER, Paris (Mooshegan), 90, of Granite City, died Sunday, April 30, 1995. Services and burial were Wednesday, May 3, in Den-

ver.

ONESKY, Agnes E. (Seveda), 84, of Madison, formerly of Granite City, died at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 27, 1995, at Madison County Nursing Home, Glen Carbon. Services were Wednesday at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Madison, by the Rev. Jim Keefner. Burial in Calvary Cemetery, Glen Carbon. Arrangements by Lehigh-Sedlak Funeral Home, Madison. Memorials to St. Mary's Catholic Church Building Fund.

ROBERTSON, John "Bud," 65, of Granite City, died at 8:32 p.m. Thursday, May 25, 1995, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Services were Tuesday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary, Granite City, by the Rev. Lewis Trotter. Burial in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon. Memorials to Madison County Humane Society or the Association for the Protection of Animals.

ROULAND, Ernest E., 89, of Granite City, died at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 27, 1995, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center. Services were Tuesday at Lehigh-Sedlak Funeral Home, Granite City, by the Rev. Bruce Rinkley. Burial in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Glen Carbon. Arrangements by Irwin Chapel, Granite City.

Norton

(Continued from Page 1A)

Norton is working on a tight schedule to get the facility up and running by the July 1996 deadline, he said.

"We have already begun the preliminary siting process. We have our permitting application in and we've selected an engineering firm," Perez said.

"We will do everything in our power to get this in by the deadline, but I don't think we'll be in full production," he said.

He said construction will take 10 months to a year and will not begin until siting and environmental permits are approved.

"But we can probably open the compost operation within six months — in time for the fall," Perez said.

He said composting can recycle about 12 percent of the waste stream.

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People

Middle Age feast is fun and educational

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Deep in the Middle Kingdom, in the Barony of Shattered Crystal, live many nobles. As befitting worthies of such grand rank, a great feast was held, with all manner of fine eatables: lamb stew, peas porridge — both hot and cold, but none more than a few days old — Yorkshire pudding, leek soup, Rice Krispies squares... Rice Krispies squares?

These nobles, all sixth-graders at Worthen school in Granite City, recently spent a full day learning all manner of facts about the Middle Ages — roughly A.D. 600-1600 — also known as the Dark Ages. "We're doing our Middle Ages feast," quoth teacher Barbara Varadian. "The kids have been practicing for the last month and have individually studied their own topic on the Middle Ages, and now they're doing their presentations."

"It's fun, the kids learn so much because they get to do it individually," she added. "There are so many things that we could not possibly cover in our social studies book that the kids get into and investigate because they are so interested."

The feast had been scheduled for the week before, but was delayed due to local flooding. As part of the pageantry of the time, students designed their own coats-of-arms. While unicorns, dragons and gryphons were in short supply on those heralds, soccer balls, credit cards and computers were much in evidence.

The students also gave themselves noble titles — Sir Bubba, Lady Of-The-Fields, Sir Kills-A-Lot, Lady Shops-A-Lot, etc.

For their presentations — given as reports or done as skits — the students donned costumes as knights (complete with helm and broadsword), ladies-in-waiting, squires, monks and nuns.

Amanda Mendoza said the feast was very educational. "We get to see what it's like in the Middle Ages," quoth she. "The fact is they were not as primitive as people think. They had a lot of technology."

One of the things she discovered was that indoor plumbing and bathrooms existed in those days.

"You'd think they didn't have one," said Amanda.

Ashly Bywater and her group, all dressed as noble ladies, performed a skit about food and table manners.

"In castles when they were finished with their food they fed (the leftovers) to the dogs," quoth she. "Lindsey Moore (another in her group) put food on the floor and pretended to be a dog and ate it."

Matt Mansfield came dressed as a squire, or knight's helper. "A squire helps the knight put on armor and polishes his arms (weapons)," quoth he. "The armor has a whole bunch of belts and ties, and the squire has to be able to tie them tight enough so it won't fall off."

Squires also filled their time learning to ride and fight in the hopes of becoming a knight.

"At the age of 20, there will be a ceremony and the noble they've been training with will take them out to a battlefield, take his sword and tap him on

"It's fun, the kids learn so much because they get to do it individually. There are so many things that we could not possibly cover in our social studies book that the kids get into and investigate because they are so interested."

— Barbara Varadian
Teacher

the shoulders," added Mansfield. Another student, dressed in holy garb, told of his life in the monastery, and read from the Book of Monks.

This book told of everything necessary to enter holy life, including vows of poverty and renouncing of carnal thoughts.

The student said such vows were easily performed, especially since he was homey, and not far to look upon.

This speech caused much gaiety among the maidens. Teacher Sandy Patterson also came dressed in the holy robes of a nun, but her speech was less worldly, befitting someone of that station.

"The church played a big, big role in the middle ages," said her. "They were very political, as much as they were religious. We don't know how much is legend and how much is true."

Patterson said that doing their own research means the students have a better understanding of the period.

"The children learn much more and remember it longer," quoth her. "Sometimes when you just sit and read something, you forget it. But when you act it out and do it and research it and present it to people you remember it."

Donovan Smithers, one of the students, said he was "really" excited about the subject.

"I plan to be an historian and I'm really big on the Middle Ages and stuff," quoth he.

He and his group studied leaders of the Middle Ages — Charlemagne, William the Conqueror, Attila the Hun, and Genghis Khan.

"Attila the Hun, I thought he was great for destroying the Roman Empire," said Smithers.

"I found out Genghis Khan was an idiot. He treated women poorly, but treated his men real well."

Such talk sits poorly with Randy Whitehead, who came clothed as the Mongol leader, complete with magic marker beard and heavy fur collar.

"He's my favorite guy from the Middle Ages," pronounced Whitehead. "I think he's pretty cool. They were one of the most barbaric tribes and that's what I like about them."

After the feast, the students all went home full of knowledge, but not peas porridge.

Apparently they didn't like it — hot or cold.



Jessica Harper, left, and Tasha Smith look at a miniature chest used for religious purposes during a program presented by the Society of Creative Anachronism at Worthen School.

Medieval pageantry comes to life

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

While students imparted much knowledge during their feasting, visitors from the Society for Creative Anachronism — a

nation-wide group dedicated to preserving the history of the Middle Ages — also spoke of bygone times.

Mistress Arphia Biraz-Pars, also known as Alice Buzzard of Godfrey, told the students about the importance of pageantry and heraldry in those times.

Because most of the people couldn't read, the heralds, coat-of-arms and even store signs were all very important in the day-to-day living, she said.

All signs and symbols were done as artwork, and all artwork had some kind of meaning, she added.

Mistress Arphia also demonstrated medieval weaving, and showed some crafts of the time.

She came dressed as a peasant, but said with minor alterations her clothes would also suit nobles hunting or engaged in falconry.

"I've been involved in the society since college days," she said after the feast. "I was at a student days at the University of Illinois in 1972, and they had a group there in cool costumes."

"I walked over and said 'what are you doing,' and I've been in it ever since," she added.

Caroline de Mercier, or Carol Mercer of Marissa, came in the guise of a late-Middle Ages Italian noblewoman.

She said it was easy to tell if someone was wealthy, because their clothing had more cloth.

Her dress was a good example, with several layers of fine cloth and long sleeves covering her hands and beyond.

Vahlin Auf Nene, a 10th century Norse warrior also known as Robert Middendorf of Belleville, talked about medieval weapons.

He was dressed in rough-woven cotton and wool, and carried an edge, or Norse short broadsword.

"We show what it was like to live in the Middle Ages, some of the hardships, and some of the joys," he said.

One of the hardships he and the others face doing their presentations is heat stroke.

Because much of Europe was in the midst of a mini-ice age during the Middle Ages, they wore more clothing.

Vahlin Auf Nene said that in England, high temperatures in summer might be in the 60s. Of course, in Norse lands it was much colder.

He also said disease killed many in those days.

As an example, he numbered off students and teachers from one to three, and asked a visitor to choose a number.

No sooner had the visitor spoke "two" than all those bearing that number fell as if dead of the plague.

He also said Vikings and Norsemen were not the same, and had been portrayed badly.

A Norseman might become a Viking (meaning an adventurer), but many stayed at home, tending farms and fields.

He also said that Vikings came down and sacked English towns only after the English stopped trading with them. That was



Vahlin Auf Nene, left, from the Society of Creative Anachronism, uses student Jason Jackson to demonstrate how a battle ax was used in war to disable or kill an opponent.

caused by religious differences between Christian England and then-pagan Scandinavia.

"We try to educate the children. What they see on television is not always the facts, it is the writer's idea of what it was really like," said

Vahlin Auf Nene. "I don't think of us as reenactors as much as historians."

"My bloodlines are Norse, and I've taken it a little farther than most," he said. "I have four children, and they know more about the Middle Ages than any adult I know."



Jamie Trun looks over a woven belt.



Frank Perri tries to poke between the links of chain mail held by Vahlin Auf Nene.



(Staff photo by PAM DOEPKE-HURD)
Kristen Knox of the Lady Warriors slides for a loose ball as O'Fallon's Beth Albrecht watches during the Panthers' 2-0 win over Granite City in Monday's sectional semifinal.

Overtime victory sends Ames, Panthers to state

By Tony Panozzo
Staff writer

After gradually raising the O'Fallon High girls soccer program the past eight years, coach Dave Ames guided the Panthers to the next step Tuesday at the Granite City Sectional.

O'Fallon completed a remarkable run to the sectional title with a 1-0 overtime victory over Springfield at Memorial Stadium. The Panthers, who came into the sectional with the No. 4 seed and defeated top seeded Granite City 2-0 in the semifinals Monday, advanced to the state tournament for the first time.



Dave Ames

OTHS WILL FACE Naperville Central at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Conant High School in Hoffman Estates.

O'Fallon's victory marks the first time since the state tournament series began in 1988 that neither Granite City or Collinsville will represent southern Illinois at state. It is also a first for Ames, the Granite City resident who started the Panthers' program in 1988.

Mission accomplished.

The Warriors placed a strong second in the conference meet — behind only traditional power Belleville West. But the Warriors finished ahead of another traditional power in Belleville East.

Ames said, "We beat a very good team to do this. There's a lot of luck involved in it, and if there's any wood around I'm going to knock on it because everything's been going our way."

"We've come together and we've got things going at the right time. The kids did a great job."

While Ames has helped guide the Warriors to three state titles and a runner-up finish over the past decade, he has never made the trip to the girls state tourna-

Girls soccer

O'Fallon 1, Springfield 0 (OT)

O'FALLON 0 0 0 1

SPRINGFIELD 0 0 0 0

First Half

No scoring

Second Half

No scoring

Overtime

Amy Young (unassisted), 82:31.

Shots on Goal

O'FALLON 3 5 2 -10

SPRINGFIELD 3 9 0 -12

Corner Kicks

O'FALLON 0 1 0 -0

SPRINGFIELD 1 2 0 -3

Goalkeepers — O'Fallon: Kellie Irwin (3

shots, 3 saves); Carrie Olson (8 shots, 9

saves). Springfield: Jenny Vargas (10

shots, 9 saves).

Jersey beats Tigers for regional crown

By Mark Pierce
Staff writer

First, the Jersey Panthers chiseled away at Edwardsville's momentum. Then, the Panthers took away the Tigers' lead.

Edwardsville watched a 4-0 lead slip away and Jersey captured its first Class AA regional crown Tuesday in Granite City. The Panthers' 5-4 eighth-inning victory was a testament to that time-honored sports factor — momentum.

TWO SEEMINGLY inconsequential plays in the fourth inning turned the emotional tide for the Panthers, who won a regional for the first time since IHSA baseball went to a two-class system in 1978. The Panthers (23-8) advance to the Centralia Sectional to play Mount Vernon on Saturday at 10 a.m.

"It's been a long time," Jersey coach Ken Schell said. "Our kids have been battling back all season. They just don't quit."

The Tigers (27-4) plated two runs in the first inning, added two more in the third, and threatened to stretch the lead in the fourth.

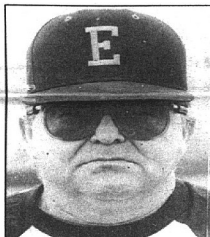
But then things started unraveling for Edwardsville. With runners on second and third and one out, the Tigers' Mark Bugger lifted a sacrifice fly to center. Mo Douglas appeared to tag up and score on the play, but the umpires ruled he left the base early and called him out.

"WHEN THEIR KID left the base too early, that turned the whole game around," Schell said.

An angry Edwardsville coach Tom Pile agreed.

"In 19 years of coaching, I've never had a play like that at third base," Pile said. "And the umpire was right. He made a good call. We can't make mistakes like that. Back where I come from, we call that discipline. We had undisciplined base-running all season. Why stop today?"

In the bottom of the fourth, Jersey scratched out a run as Jeremy LaPlant singled and



Tom Pile

scored on Brett Dabbs' sacrifice fly. Although Edwardsville still held a 4-1 lead, Pile could sense the momentum had clearly shifted.

"When they scored their first run, I looked at the coaches and said, 'We're in trouble,'" he said. "They took control of the game from then on."

INDEED, EDWARDSVILLE starter Chris Wright, who was sharp early, was roughed up in the next two innings. Jersey's Dustin Elliott walked, stole second and scored on Andy Carey's single in the fifth.

In the sixth, Elliott crushed a two-run triple with two out that tied the game at 4-4.

Meanwhile, Jersey reliever Joe Lyles was coasting. Lyles, who shut out Alton 2-0 in the regional opener, relieved starter Scott Burney in the fourth and allowed just one hit over the final five innings.

"I wasn't sure which way to go," Schell said. "Burney throws good off-speed stuff, and I thought they'd sit on Lyles' fast ball. But Joe came in and did a great job shutting them down. I couldn't have asked for more from him."

Jersey won the game in the eighth off Edwardsville reliever Ben Hutton. With one out, Brian Bidlack walked and went to second when catcher Brad Evans' pickoff throw sailed wildly into right field. One out

(See REGIONAL, Page 3B)

1995 Warriors met some lofty goals

By Rob Raphael
Staff writer

In any sport, one has to set reasonable goals for a team.

The Granite City High tennis team set some lofty goals in 1995 — and accomplished all of them. Now coach Allen Lobdell is already setting goals for 1996.

THE TWO MAIN goals of this year's team were to do well at the conference meet and send at least three boys to state.

Mission accomplished.

The Warriors placed a strong second in the conference meet — behind only traditional power Belleville West. But the Warriors finished ahead of another traditional power in Belleville East.

And three Warriors did qualify

Boys tennis

for the state tournament. Joe Markel qualified in singles, and the team of Joel Belmer and Chris Mitchell qualified in the doubles competition.

Lobdell said it was the team's goal to qualify at least those three, who each qualified for state last year as well.

"At the beginning of the season, we set those goals and we accomplished them," he said. "We did very well at the conference tourney, and we got those three to state. The only thing we're a little disappointed in is our dual-meet record (6-4)."

LOBDELL WAS ALSO pleased that each state qualifier did bet-

ter at state than the previous year.

Markel lost in the second round of play, but went on to win three more matches in the back-draw competition. Belmer and Mitchell lost in the first round to a tandem from Moline, but went on to win two more matches before losing in the fourth round.

Lobdell said none of his players were at the top of their game at the end of the season.

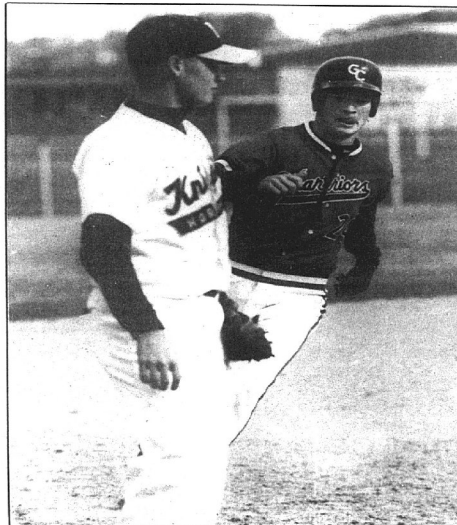
The late-season rainouts hurt, and our scheduling never did work out right," Lobdell said. "They just weren't sharp, and the lack of competition late in the year had something to do with that."

"Markel in particular didn't

(See TENNIS, Page 3B)



Allen Lobdell



Scott Nemeth was the Warriors' only all-SWC first-team selection.

Warriors put 6 players on all-conference team

By Tony Panozzo
Staff writer

The Granite City High baseball team's defense of the Southwestern Conference title ended in the final weekend of the regular season.

But while the Warriors finished in second place, they still came away with several all-conference selections.

LEADING THE WAY for the Warriors on the 1995 all-SWC team is senior catcher Scott Nemeth, who smacked a two-run homer in Granite City's 5-4 victory over Collinsville on May 20. The win improved the Warriors to 7-3 in the conference and left them in a tie for first place in the SWC. A 7-4 loss to Belleville East in the second game of an SWC doubleheader that day, however, cost the Warriors a share of the conference title.



Lloyd



Wood

A MAJOR REASON was Nemeth, who homered in both of the Warriors' games against Collinsville this season. Nemeth hit 33 this year and had three doubles, three triples, three homers and 11 RBI.

A three-year starter, Nemeth stepped up his offense after a tough year at the plate as a junior. He has been recruited by Belleville Area College as well as Lewis and Clark.

"He hit the ball real well for us," Lignoul said. "He did a real nice job."

"He learned how to catch last year and he worked real hard at it. He not only did a good job of catching, but he also stepped up and took charge with the pitching staff. He did an excellent job with an underclass pitching staff."

Baseball

Still, the Warriors made a spirited run to their second straight conference title. GCHS ended the season 17-16 overall after falling 10-4 to Edwardsville on Monday in the semifinals of the Granite City Class AA Regional.

"We got ourselves an opportunity to win again," Lignoul said. "We were playing for the conference championship in the 10th and final game."

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Trivial matters

1. The IHSA began holding a state girls softball tournament in 1976, when Rich South won the state championship. What was the first Metro East school to get to state and how did it do?

2. What was the most recent Metro East softball team to win a state championship, and what was notable about that team's three games at state? Answers at right.

Community Sports Calendar

SIUE basketball camps

Openings are still available at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville for the summer basketball camps. For more information, call 692-2680.

Individual day camps for boys are scheduled in two sessions, June 12-15 and July 10-13. Sessions for grades 1-4 are 9 a.m. to noon and sessions for grades 5-8 are 1-4 p.m. Each camp is \$65 per person.

A high school varsity team camp for boys will be held from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. June 25-29. The cost is \$140 for commuters and \$210 for residents.



Coming up

State tourneys

The IHSA Class A baseball finals (in Springfield) and softball finals (in Pekin) will be held this weekend, along with Class AA sectionals.

Trivia answers

1. Cahokia went to state in 1977 and won it all.

2. Belleville East won the Class AA title in 1989 with three straight shutouts.

Despite light hitting, Clippers win 3 out of 4 weekend games

By Tony Panozzo
Staff writer

The Granite City Clippers' pitching staff passed its first test of the season by hurling two shutouts and a one-run victory in back-to-back doubleheaders Sunday and Monday at Dal Maxville Field.

But player manager Daren DePew is still looking for the offense that has led the Clippers to the Mon-Clair League finals the past three years. After splitting with Saugeat on Sunday, Granite City swept East Alton on Monday but scored just 11 runs through the four games.

THE CLIPPERS improved to 4-2, good for first place in the Mon-Clair League's North Division.

"We're still struggling with our hitting a little bit," DePew said. "But the guys are starting to come around. We've got to get some more games under our belts."

"We're not scoring runs like we have, but I think we'll come out of that."

In the first game against Saugeat on Sunday, the Clippers took an early 2-0 lead and hung on for a 2-1 win as starter Jeff Ridenour went the distance. Ridenour, a first-year righthander for the Clippers, allowed five hits in earning his first win on the year.

"He got in some trouble, but he got out of it," DePew said. "He was throwing the ball pretty well."

LEFT-HANDER MARK Winfield made his first start of the season in the second game and was the losing pitcher in a 9-3 loss. Winfield gave up six runs through 5½ innings before giving way to righthander Corey Dickerson, who was touched for a three-run homer in the seventh.

The Clippers, who scored once in the sixth, rallied for two runs in the bottom of the seventh to account for the final margin.

"Saugeat's a lot better than they were last year," DePew said. "They have some pretty good players."

On Monday, Granite City bounced back with a sweep over



Jeff Ridenour won his first Mon-Clair League game Sunday.

East Alton in a Memorial Day doubleheader. Darin Hendrickson started the first game and ran his scoreless streak to 14 innings this season with his second straight shutout in a 5-0 victory over the Silver Bullets. Hendrickson is now 2-0.

"HE'S GOT GOOD STUFF," DePew said. "He's been throwing the ball well."

Brian Harshany started the second game and outlasted East Alton's Tracy Kennett 1-0. Both pitchers went the distance, but the Clippers went ahead in the third inning and held on for the shutout.

Granite City will look for its third straight win when it travels to East St. Louis for a doubleheader Sunday. The Clippers are also scheduled to play at Waterloo in an exhibition game at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

The game will be the first between the two teams since last summer's Mon-Clair playoff championship, when Waterloo defeated Granite City in two of three games for the league title. The Buds are off to a 5-1 start and in second place behind Millstadt in the South Division after sweeping Belleville and O'Fallon over the weekend.

Sobo brings soccer camps to area again this summer

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

Bo might know baseball. Sobo knows soccer.

Sobo Ilijevski, the greatest goalkeeper in the history of professional indoor soccer, is again bringing his knowledge to the Metro East.

ILIJEVSKI WILL conduct several youth soccer camps in the area for both boys and girls of all ages. From July 24-28, he will host camps in Swansea (noon-2 p.m., Wolf Branch School), O'Fallon (8-9 p.m., at Estelle Kampmeyer Elementary School) and Mascoutah (5:30-7:30 p.m., at Scheve Park).

From July 31-Aug. 4 he will conduct camps in Collinsville (noon-2 p.m., Collinsville Sports Complex) and Alton (6-8 p.m., Gordon Moore Park). From Aug. 7-11 he'll be in Waterloo (6-8 p.m., Waterloo Park).

The Metro East has always been a favorite stop for Ilijevski during his career. The local communities have always treated him kindly.

"The reason I come here is simple," Ilijevski said. "Collinsville, Granite City and Belleville are big soccer towns. I want to help the youngsters to kind of give them a little bit more knowledge. I want to share my knowledge with a good soccer area."

"Everything has been working great because the turnout is always good. That's the reason I'm coming back and the people want me to come back. When you needed somewhere, I'll be there."

ILIJEVSKI'S CAMP is for both goalkeepers and field players. Goalkeepers will be trained in the techniques of catching, punching, diving, punting, goalkicking and throwing. Field players will be trained in the techniques of passing, ball control, dribbling, tackling, heading and shooting.

While goalkeeping is Ilijevski's specialty, he's no stranger to field play. Growing up in Skopje, Yugoslavia, Sobo was quite a center striker in his days. Ilijevski has long said when his school team needed a goal, he came out of the net to play forward. If his team was playing a weaker opponent, he never played keeper. In fact, Ilijevski currently plays in a fun over-30 league where he is a center forward.

CAMPERS WILL GET a wealth of knowledge in both goalkeeping and field play at the camp. The average ratio is 10 players per coach.

"I played soccer for 28 years, and through all those years I played for maybe 10 different coaches," Ilijevski said. "All my knowledge didn't come from one coach. I got some watching out of each coach. Even watching other teams practicing or playing, I learned from watching those coaches, too. I'm the product of a lot of dif-



Sobo Ilijevski

ferent styles. That is my way, too. I tell my campers, 'I'm not a selfish person; just come to my camp. My camp is the best camp.'"

"Sure, my camp is a great camp. But the point is I preach to the kids if they can go to two or three camps this summer and next year go to two or three different camps, you're going to learn something from each coach — a different style or different technique."

Ilijevski played 13 years of professional indoor soccer in the U.S. He played in 398 games, winning 197. He is the all-time leader in those two categories along with minutes saved and shots faced.

"I want to preach soccer like a priest preaches about God," Ilijevski said. "The fee for the camp is \$50, which includes a soccer ball (retail value \$30), camp T-shirt, camp photo and some other special gifts."

For more information, call Linda at (314) 227-3036.

Sports shorts

Student night at raceway
The \$200,000 Clark Racing Series resumes at Tri-City Speedway on Saturday with Coca-Cola Student Night. All students 17 and under will be admitted free with an empty Coca-Cola product can.

As an added bonus to Coca-Cola Student Night, an exciting Street Stock features will be contested on Tri-City's tight, high-banked quarter-mile speedway. With Ed Lenhardt, Dan Pilkington and Jeff Lebaube grabbing the first three main events of the season, the next winner could continue the string of first-time winners.

A full program of SKOAL Racing Sprint Cars, Budweiser Grand American Modifieds and Red Dog Pro Stocks is also scheduled for the lightning-fast half-mile speedway. Gates open at 6 p.m., with racing at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students ages 11-17 and \$2 for children 10 and under. There is always plenty of free parking.

Tri-City Speedway is located one-half mile south of I-270 on Illinois Route 203 south (exit 4).

Golf journey

The Granite City Optimist Club will hold a junior golf tournament Sunday, June 4 at the Legacy Golf Course. Entries are now being taken for the tournament, which is open to boys and girls who will not have turned 18 years of age by July 21, 1995.

Trophies will be awarded for first, second, third and fourth place in both boys and girls divisions. First and second-place finishers will also have their entry fees covered as they advance to the Illinois District Tournament, which will be held June 14-16 at Lake Shore Golf Course in Taylorville.

For more information, call Linda Vaughn at 452-2174.

Volleyball clinics

The 1995 Granite City High School summer volleyball clinics will be held June 12-16 at GCHS.

There will be two clinics. The high school clinic open to players attending GCHS this fall, will be held 9 a.m.-noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m. June 12-14 at Memorial Gymnasium. The final session, June 15, will consist of tournament play in the afternoon only.

The high school clinic will be directed by Nancy Mueller, the assistant volleyball coach at Iowa State University. Mueller is a former Division I volleyball player who played at the University of Tennessee and will be assisted by several other current or former Division I athletes.

The cost is \$75 per person and includes instruction, T-shirt and clinic insurance. Registration will be accepted until the first day of the clinic but must be

received by June 1 to guarantee a T-shirt. All participants must have proof of a current physical exam.

Registration forms for the clinic are now available and can be obtained by calling 452-9284.

The junior high clinic, for boys and girls entering grades 5-8 this fall, will be held 9:30 a.m.-noon and 1:30-4 p.m. June 15-16. The clinic will be conducted by GCHS volleyball coach Cindy Gaglio.

The cost is \$25. Registration is now being taken and will be accepted until the first day of the clinic but must be received by Thursday, June 1 to guarantee a T-shirt. All participants must have proof of a current physical exam.

Registration forms can be obtained by calling 452-9284.

Soccer camp

Applications are now being taken for Granite City soccer coach Gene Baker's 1995 summer soccer camp.

The camp, which will be held June 12-16 at Granite City High School, is open to boys and girls ages 7-18. Instruction will be provided by college players and high school coaches.

The camp will begin at 9 a.m. June 12 and will follow a daily schedule from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. through June 16. The camp will be divided into periods of technical training, individual skills competition, instructional game film and tactical training sessions and competitive games.

The cost is \$70 per camper, with family and team rates available. For more information,

call Baker at (314) 355-2374 or 451-5808.

Coaches needed

Experienced male and female soccer coaches are needed for St. Louis-area select soccer teams. Several positions are available in different age groups for both boys and girls development (U-8 through U-10) through U-19.

Candidates should send a mini-

resume with soccer experience to: P.O. Box 2285, Florissant, Mo., 63032-2285.

Tryout camp

The Cincinnati Reds will hold a tryout baseball camp June 10 at the VFW field in Highland.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. All American Legion players must bring written permission from their post commander or manager, and any players

under 21 must have a written release from a parent or legal guardian accepting full legal liability in order to work out.

ADA goal shootout

The American Diabetes Association and the Falls Golf at Turtle Creek in O'Fallon, Mo. are teaming up for the \$1 million swing for a cure hole-in-one contest, June 1-4. Each attempt is \$1.



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•Baseball

(Continued from Page 1B)

staff. The pitchers had a lot of confidence in him, which really helped them."

NEMETH WAS GRANITE City's only player named to the all-SWC first team. The Warriors had two second-team selections: left fielder Jason Wood and infielder Brian Lloyd.

Wood, a senior, batted cleanup and led GCHS in hitting with a .378 average. He also led the team with 34 hits and 22 RBI. He had three doubles and four triples and struck out just eight times in 90 at bats.

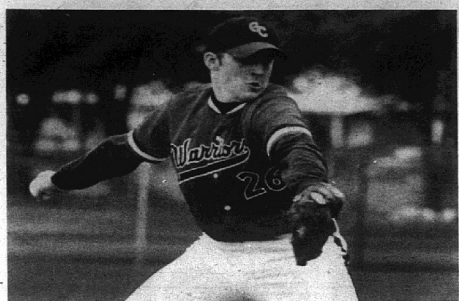
A two-year starter, Wood showed more power at the plate this season and plans to play baseball at St. Louis University.

"Woody" was another one that didn't hit real well last year," Lignoul said. "Offensively, he was our most consistent hitter all year long. He has such a quick bat that when he hits it, he has the ability to drive the ball."

LLOYD, THE WARRIORS' leadoff hitter most of the season, batted .292 and finished second to Wood with 29 hits. The junior started the year at third base and moved to second, and was the only Warrior to play in all 33 games.

"We were very pleased with him," Lignoul said. "He got a lot of experience as a sophomore. He played pretty well and played with a lot of enthusiasm."

The Warriors also had three honorable mention selections: senior outfielder Jason Talley, junior pitcher Billy Niepert and



Jeremy Hoback pitches against Edwardsville on Monday.

sophomore shortstop Kyle Briggs. Talley alternated in center field and on the pitcher's mound and batted .287 with 25 hits, three doubles, a triple and a homer. He enjoyed another productive season at the plate after hitting .292 last year. As a pitcher, he went 1-3.

LIGNOUL SAID TALLEY hopes to play college baseball at Millikin University.

"He did a real good job for us," Lignoul said. "He was very consistent."

Two players who will return next year, Niepert and Briggs, enjoyed solid years. Niepert

went 5-5 as a pitcher and won the Warriors' regional opener against Clive Memorial.

"He did a real nice job for us down the stretch," Lignoul said. Briggs started at shortstop as a sophomore and improved his fielding and hitting throughout the year. He hit .281, had 25 hits and committed nine errors in 104 chances after a slow start.

"To play shortstop as a sophomore in the Southwestern Conference is asking a lot of a person," Lignoul said. "We just asked Kyle to go out and make the routine plays. And as it turned out he made some very good plays. The thing about him is he got better every game."

•Tennis

(Continued from Page 1B)

play his type of game. He can go either way — playing back at the baseline or being aggressive at the net. And he has a big serve which was very effective during the year. He's certainly more intimidating when he's at the net, and he just never got in a groove."

IT'S BEEN A wonderful stretch of tennis for the Warriors recently, but next year Lobdell faces one of his bigger challenges. He will lose four of his top players to graduation.

Mitchell and Belmer will graduate this year, as well as Mark Papp and Brian Wortham.

"I'm losing my No. 2, No. 3, No. 4 and No. 7 players," said Lobdell. "That's four real tough seniors that won't be back. I don't know how I'll replace all of them."

Lobdell does have three core players returning, including Markel, Buddy Prama and Chris Carpenter will return as a junior.

"We're looking for Markel to be one of the top players around next year," Lobdell said. "Overall, that gives me three good core players to start with. But I still need three more singles and doubles players to have enough."

LOBDELL FINISHED the season with just 11 players, including just two sophomores and two freshmen.

•Regional —

(Continued from Page 1B)

later, Elliott singled up the middle, plating Black and sending the happy Panthers streaming onto the field.

Edwardsville's first runs came courtesy of Brian Stark's two-run single in the first. Evans crushed a two-run homer in the third to make it 4-0.

"I'm proud of these boys because they tried," Pile said. "For the most part, they've executed. But the mistakes we made came back to haunt us."

Summer track series to begin next Thursday in Collinsville

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

It doesn't matter if you're a novice or just want to satisfy your need to compete. The 1995 Collinsville Summer Track Program can fulfill those track and field needs.

This will be the eighth summer the Collinsville High coaching staff will run its five-week meet.

THE MEETS WILL be run on Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. beginning June 8 and concluding July 6. Participants are asked to arrive 20 minutes early to sign up for their evening's events.

"We do this to promote track and field at Collinsville and for the whole area," GCHS track coach El Eschman said. "The first year we had 40 people,

then 60, 80 and pretty soon we had 100-plus by the fourth year. Last year on opening night we had 300 people."

In all, about 400 people participated last summer. The number for this summer will most likely increase again. Eschman has already sent out 275 fliers to individuals and families.

The atmosphere is perfect for families. "It's fun," Eschman said. "What I find is a lot of people enjoy coming out and meeting new people and competing against other people. We're talking about people up to 55 years old who are real competitive and as young as 5 and 6."

"The high school and lower age group is picking up. In the 13-15 group, might have run four or five heats, especially in the sprints."

In addition to the three youth divisions, there are six adult divisions: 18-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49 and 50-59.

The youth events include the long jump, high jump, softball throw, 50, 100, 200, 400 meter dashes.

THE ADULT EVENTS include the shot put, discus, long jump, high jump, 100, 200, 400 dashes, 800, 1,500, 1,600, 3,000 and 3,200 runs and the 1,500 and 1,600-meter walks.

Entry fee for all five meets is \$12 for youths, \$20 for adults or \$35 for a family. The individual fee for the week is \$5. Ribbons are handed out to the first-through-third-place finishers in each event.

Entry forms can be picked up at the Collinsville Sports Store and Curd Smith Sports Store in Belleville. For more information, call Eschman at 345-5471.

•O'Fallon

(Continued from Page 1B)

ment — even as a neutral observer. But he has an idea of what kind of competition to expect.

"This is a whole other experience," Ames said. "This is kind of another first for me. I expect it to be very much the same. I know what to expect, but the kids don't. This is all a learning experience for us."

ON TUESDAY, it was a freshman striker who provided the latest lesson in winning. With just 2:31 elapsed in overtime, Young knocked the ball past Springfield goalkeeper Jenny Vargas off a scramble in front of the net.

The play began on a throw-in from the sideline by sophomore Shanniss Stock, whose long tosses led to scoring chances for the Panthers throughout the sectional. Young gained possession after a clearing attempt failed and scored in traffic.

"It finally worked," Ames said. "(Young) is an impact player. She's a baby, but we've gone to her a heck of a lot."

Ames Young, her sister Katie Young and senior All-Stater Beth Albrecht all had scoring chances in the first half, when O'Fallon controlled the field against the Senators. Ames Young nearly set up an early goal for the Panthers when she crossed a feed to her sister with 15:29 left in the

first half. But Katie Young's shot went wide.

IN THE SECOND half, Springfield slowly began to step up its attack and then threatened to score several times over the final 20 minutes of regulation.

With 15:03 left, O'Fallon defender Shelley Weber thwarted a scoring chance by clearing the ball off the goal line. Springfield outshot O'Fallon 9-5 in the second half and pressured the Panthers heavily during the closing minutes.

"I was concerned that whoever could score one, that would hold up," Ames said. "We were getting pretty tired. There are some kids who stepped up and made some big saves."

The game went to overtime, but ended quickly after a run by the Senators. The Panthers earned a throw-in deep in Springfield's end, and Stock fired a perfect set-up pass in front of the net.

SPRINGFIELD OUTSHOT O'Fallon 12-10 and had a 3-1 edge in corner kicks. But the Senators, who defeated Collinsville 2-1 on Monday to advance to the finals, could not find the net and ended the year 14-4. O'Fallon goalies Kellie Irwin and Carrie Olson combined for the shutout — the 16th of the year for the Panthers.

"I feel bad for the kids," Springfield coach Bob Wharton

said. "They fought so hard. But I really take my hat off to O'Fallon. They're a good team and they'll represent us well at state."

The Panthers appear to be peaking at the right time after their surprising performance in the sectional. The Panthers' only losses this season have come against Collinsville, Peoria Richwoods and Chatham Glenwood.

AT STATE, The Panthers will most likely face their toughest test of the year. But winning the sectional title might be the greatest coaching achievement yet for Ames, who has seen his program work its way up from day one.

Ames, who has been Baker's assistant coach at GCHS since 1983, served as an assistant coach for 10 years at Granite City North in 1972. Ames teamed up head coach John Sellmeyer to lead the Warriors to the title in the first state soccer tournament.

"It's hard to say," Ames said. "We've always been there before when I was a part of the (GCHS boys') coaching staff, and now this is my group. I'm really happy to get this. There's a great sense of personal accomplishment."

"This has not been an overnight thing. There's been a lot of hours spent by the kids and me to get it here. We worked a long time to get here."

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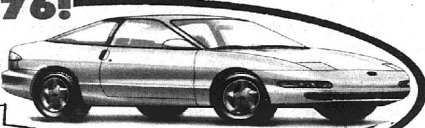


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BLAZER LT
4 DOOR
EXTRA CLEAN
ONE OWNER

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CONVERTIBLE
V-8, AUTO,
LOADED
17,XXX MILES

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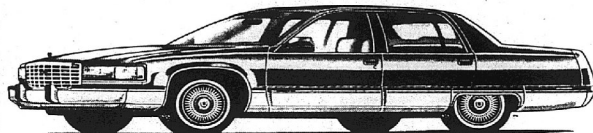
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